

Amendment to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method in computing system for providing a user interaction scheme comprising:

minimizing an application upon receiving a minimize command; and
revealing a tile in a sidebar to present the minimized application in response to the minimize command, the sidebar configured to display a plurality of tiles corresponding to a plurality of applications, wherein revealing the tile includes displaying one or more interactive application features ~~of the minimized application in the tile~~, said one or more interactive application features providing selected functionality of the application to the user without removing the application from the sidebar.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more interactive application features include a sub-set of the original application features.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more interactive application features include all of the original application features.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising providing, in the tile, access to additional features not available in the application.

Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising hiding an application window upon receiving the minimize command.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising hiding a taskbar application button associated with the application upon receiving the minimize command.

Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising hiding an alt-tab entry associated with the application upon receiving the minimize command.

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 2, further comprising providing access to the sub-set of application features through a fly-out menu accessible through the tile.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 2, further comprising providing the user with a restore button accessible through the tile to allow the user to maximize the application.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The method of claim 2, further comprising providing an available features selection module for allowing selection of the one or more interactive features available through the tile.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The method of claim 2, further comprising allowing a user to determine a size of the tile.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A computer storage medium having computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 1.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A method in a computing system for providing a user interaction scheme through the use of a sidebar, comprising:

moving an application to the sidebar upon receipt of a user command to minimize the application; and

displaying, without user interaction other than the user command, at least a sub-set of interactive features belonging to the application in the minimized application in the sidebar, said

interactive features providing functionality of the application to the user without removing the application from the sidebar.

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 14, further comprising providing access to additional features not available in the application.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 14, further comprising inserting a tile in the sidebar for providing access to the application.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 14, further comprising hiding an application window upon receiving the minimize command.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The method of claim 14, further comprising hiding a taskbar application button associated with the application upon receiving the minimize command.

Claim 19 (original): The method of claim 14, further comprising hiding an alt-tab entry associated with the application upon receiving the minimize command.

Claim 20 (original): The method of claim 16, further comprising providing access to the sub-set of application features through a fly-out menu accessible through the tile.

Claim 21 (original): The method of claim 16, further comprising providing the user with a restore button accessible through the tile to allow the user to maximize the application.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The method of claim 16, further comprising providing an available features selection module for allowing selection of the at least a sub-set of interactive features available through the tile.

Claim 23 (original): The method of claim 16, further comprising allowing the user to determine a size of the tile.

Claim 24 (previously presented): A computer storage medium having computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 12.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A system for providing user access to a variety of informational items, the system comprising:

a processor for generating a sidebar displaying a plurality of tiles;

at least one application including an insertion module for inserting a tile into the sidebar and an available features selection module for selecting the one or more interactive application features for display in and accessibility through the tile, wherein one or more selected interactive features of the application are displayed in the tile when the application is represented by the tile in the sidebar, said interactive application features selected via the available features selection module providing functionality of the application to a user without removing the application from the sidebar; and

user interface tools for allowing [[a]] the user to command placement of a selected application into the sidebar.

Claim 26 (original): The system of claim 25, further comprising a restoration module for restoring the application through the use of the tile.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The system of claim 25, further comprising

Claim 28 (original): The system of claim 25, further comprising special controls for allowing removal of the application from the sidebar.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The system of claim 25, further comprising sidebar controls for hiding a taskbar application button associated with the application, an alt-tab entry associated with the application, and an application window associated with the application upon receiving the minimize command.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The system of claim 25, further comprising a fly-out menu for providing access to the selected one or more interactive application features displayed in the tile.

Claim 31 (currently amended): A system for providing access to a minimized application through a user interface, the system comprising:

- a processor;

- an available feature selection module for allowing an application to provide one or more selected interactive features of the application including at least a sub-set of a full feature set upon minimization of the application, said selected interactive features providing functionality of the application to a user without removing the application from the sidebar; and

- a tile insertion module for revealing a tile corresponding to the application upon minimization and for displaying the selected interactive features in the tile in response to minimization.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The system of claim 31, wherein the tile insertion module reveals a tile in a sidebar configured to host the tile within the user interface, wherein the sidebar includes a plurality of tiles corresponding to a plurality of applications.

Claim 33 (original): The system of claim 31, further comprising a restoration module for restoring the application through the use of the tile.

Claim 34 (original): The system of claim 31, further comprising special controls for allowing removal of the application from the sidebar.

Claim 35 (original): The system of claim 31, further comprising sidebar controls for hiding a taskbar application button, an alt-tab entry, and an application window upon receiving the minimize command.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The system of claim 31, further comprising a fly-out menu for providing access to the one or mere selected interactive features displayed in the tile.